

C¹
1. (TWICE AMENDED) A method for producing a solid sustained-release preparation, which comprises freeze-drying a sustained-release microcapsule preparation in a freeze-drying container of which the inner face is partially or wholly coated with an ice layer or water-repelling base material.

C²
13. (ONCE AMENDED) A method for producing a sustained-release preparation comprising:
freezing water in a freeze-drying container having an inner face to form an ice layer which wholly or partially coats said inner face of said freeze-drying container;
adding a sustained-release microcapsule preparation suspension to said ice layer;
freezing said sustained-release microcapsule preparation suspension over said ice layer to form a sustained-release preparation layer;
sublimating water from said ice layer and said sustained-release preparation layer;
and then,
recovering a sustained-release preparation from said freeze-drying container.
